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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE:

SUBJECT Communist Party Strength in Hungary This document is hereby regraded to TIST. This document is necessarily from the PIST. 31 October 1946

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Because of a struggle within its ranks the Hungarian Communist Party is teday weaker than at the time of the last national election. If the Small Holders Party can force a local election before the end of the year, it is believed that the Communists will not receive over 10 to 12 percent of the votes. The Communist Party's internal difficulties are analyzed as follows:

The Communist Party's invitation to the so-called "small Arrow Crossists" to join the Party in order to expiate their former sins was undertaken originally to impress Moscow with the strength of the Party, but it has actually resulted in an estimated 300,000 new members. Thus the former members of the Arrow Cross Party now constibuts the majority of the Communist Party in Mungary.

- The leader of the Arrow Cross. group is Laszlo Rejk, the Minister of the Interior, who is described as a fanatic Communist but allegedly not a "Muscovite." Under Rajk's administration the police department stands by passively at enti-
- The erstwhile Arrow Crossists resent the leadership of Matyas Rakosi, Zoltan Vas, Ernő Gorb and Jozsef Revay, all of whom "Gescribed as "Muscovite Jews". Rakosi was compelled to request the assistance of Soviet General Sviridov in September against the inciting policy of Rajk. For the time being, Moscow supports the Rakosi group, largely because of Minister of Transportation Gero's excellent work on reconstruction. However, it is reported that Sviridev openly called Vas"a erook" at a recent ACC meeting, and that Vas' days in power are numbered. A "hands off" policy at anti-semitic riots is an indication that the Soviets nevertheless intend to maintain Rejk's strengthe
- 4. Sincere old-line Communists, as well as the Arrow Cross the Muscovite group is more interested in furthering Soviet foreign policy Communists, feel that then in establishing a socialist state in Hungary. It is believed that with the withdrawal of Red Army troops, the right and left wings of the Social Democratic Party will split. The sincere Hungarian Communists are then expect-
- 6a. With regard to Rakosi, Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy is reported to have stated that "we have to support this poor old Jew lest Rajk seize leadership of the

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